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Remarks:

Regarding the amendments to the claims:

Kindly enter the amendments to the claims indicated above; it is believed that the presently presented amended claims are all directed to allowable subject matter, and consequently all the claims are in condition for allowance.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, and 13-15 under 35 USC 102 (e) in view of the US 6524624 to Morelli:

The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the foregoing claims in view of the Morelli reference.

In the currently presented claims, the applicant now requires that there be present a specific minimum amount of a surfactant which causes thickening of the resultant mixed composition. Support for this claim limitation is found in the applicant's specification as filed. More specifically, the applicant now claims that the amount of the surfactant present in the claimed compositions need be present in amount of at least 1%wt, based on the total final weight of the admixture composition of which the surfactant forms a part. Additionally, this surfactant need play a major role with regard to providing a thickening behavior to the composition; these simultaneous roles are not believed to be anticipated or suggested by the Morelli reference.

With regard to the Morelli reference, although Morelli indicates that a wide range of an alpha olefin sulfonate may be present in his composition, Morelli fails to teach, suggest or most crucially, to demonstrate that any appreciable change in thickening with respects to the original viscosity of a first precursor composition, and a second precursor composition would occur when the two precursor compositions were mixed to form a final mixture. Morelli is wholly silent on this point, and the applicant contends that this is a critical point which fully and fairly distinguishes Morelli from the currently claimed invention. Morelli provides no teaching, or motivation in order to select a surfactant, or to use such a surfactant in conjunction with further constituents in order to specifically

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provide to be presently claimed invention, wherein a surprising increase in thickening results as compared to the viscosity of the separate precursor compositions. With regard to any alleged teaching provided by Morelli, a review of his Examples 1 – 7 compositions provided by Morelli actually only provide a teaching wherein the amount of the alpha olefin sulfonate which is ultimately present in the Morelli mixtures is at most 0.5%wt., and typically is present in amounts of only of at most about 0.27%wt. Such are amounts which are about half, but usually less than the minimum amount of the applicant's claimed surfactant which provides thickening properties. The attention of the Examiner is respectfully directed to the plural examples provided wherein each of the compositions include more than 1%wt. of the surfactant in the final admixture compositions formed.

Furthermore, while the Examiner may contend that alpha olefin sulfonates are widely used in known in the art of chemical formulations for cleaning compositions. Nonetheless there is absolutely no teaching or suggestion by Morelli that the judicious selection of specific surfactants, to be combined with specific further constituents in two (or more) precursors would provide an unexpected boost in the ultimate viscosity of the compositions, which in turn provide very important technical benefits which had failed to be recognized or provided by Morelli. More specifically, as the applicants point down in their application, applicant's compositions include a thin alkaline liquid, and a thin acidic liquid each having viscosities which are rather low, but which upon mixing to form an admixture which has a substantially higher viscosity. In preferred embodiments the applicant's compositions provide the following important technical benefits which are not taught or realized by Morelli. First, prior to mixing, the thin alkaline liquid and the thin acidic liquid are easily flowable, and thus can be conveniently dispensed from a two-part container and the due to their low initial viscosities can also be very thoroughly and intimately mixed with each other in order to form the admixture, which upon ad mixing substantially increases its resultant viscosity. A substantial increase in the resultant viscosity provides for improved clinging and adhesion of the admixture onto inclined surfaces, such as on many lavatories surfaces. Thus, unlike compositions which already have a generally high initial viscosity which are more difficult to be dispensed from a

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container, according to the use of the compositions described by the present applicants, the initial precursors are individually thin liquids which are easily dispensed, yet provide the benefits of a thickened liquid composition. Such benefits, nor any guideposts asked how to achieve such benefits are even remotely taught or suggested in the Morelli reference.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the outstanding rejection, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 11, and 13-15 under 35 USC 102 (e) in view of the WO 98/57544 to Harrison:

The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the foregoing claims in view of the Harrison reference.

With respect to the Harrison document, the compositions disclosed herein are easily distinguishable from those according to the present invention as, simply stated, Harrison fails to teach or suggest the utility of any surfactant whatsoever in his compositions. As a review of that document reveals, Harrison's compositions therein are essentially directed to a disinfecting composition formed from a first component which comprises a disinfectant precursor, and a second component which on admixture with the first component reacts with the precursor to form a disinfectant, and wherein either component includes a substance which exhibits a color change after a period of time has elapsed subsequent to the application of the disinfecting composition onto a surface. Notwithstanding the above, there is no recitation whatsoever as to any surfactant, nor are thickened compositions disclosed. Indeed, there is no indication as to any viscosity characteristics are features of either the precursor compositions, or any viscosity which can be attributed to the resultant mixture..

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims presented in this paper, which now require the presence of a surfactant and which further requires certain viscosity

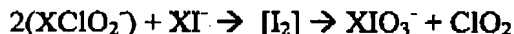
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characteristics of the individual free cursors, and the resultant admixture form therefrom, it is not believed that the Harrison reference is fairly cited against the currently presented claims. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of that rejection, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 11, and 13-15 under 35 USC 102 (e) in view of the US 6663902 to Hei:

The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the foregoing claims in view of the Hei reference.

Turning to the Hei reference, the compositions according to that invention do not appear to be particularly relevant in the data namely, it is required by Hei that the generation of chlorine dioxide is via the reaction of at least one iodo-compound having at least one iodine atom and a least one ionic chlorite compound. Hei also provides a proposed reaction scheme wherein the reaction proceeds by an oxidation-reduction reaction which is illustrated by the following (unbalanced) formula:



According to this reaction, it is believed that the chlorite salt acts as an oxidant to convert, in situ, the iodide salt into labile iodine which, subsequently, is converted to iodate as the chlorine dioxide is formed. See Hei, col. 4, line 66 – col. 5, line 22. Thus, the Hei reference provides a very different mechanism for the production of chlorine dioxide, which is prima facie distinguishable from the mechanism relevance to the currently claims compositions and methods for their use. Accordingly, it is not believe that a skilled artisan would consider the Hei reference further, as Hei requires as an essential constituent t least one iodo-compound having at least one iodine atom which is a key constituency in the foregoing reaction scheme. Hei does not teach or suggest the generation of chlorine dioxide in the manner which the present applicant teaches.

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Additionally Hei fails to teach a composition which requires specific types of surfactants wherein on mixing the first and second precursor compositions, the resulting admixed composition is acidic, causes the compound to generate chlorine dioxide, and is more viscous than the first precursor composition and more viscous than the second precursor composition from which the mixture is formed.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of that rejection, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-15, and 17-19 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of the US 6524624 to Morelli:

The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the foregoing claims in view of the Morelli reference.

For the sake of brevity, the applicant herein repeats and incorporates by reference their remarks made *supra*, with regard to the Morelli reference as being equally relevant to the present rejection lodged under 35 USC 103(a).

Similarly as stated before, in view of the claim amendments and rebuttal remarks, reconsideration of the propriety of the present rejection, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner in charge of this application believe that telephonic communication with the undersigned would meaningfully advance the prosecution of this application, they are invited to call the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

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PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

The applicants respectfully petition for a three-month extension of time in order to permit for the timely entry of this response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263 with respect to this petition.

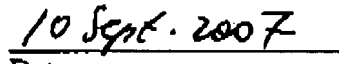
CONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FEES

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted;


Andrew N. Parfomak, Esq.

Reg.No. 32,431

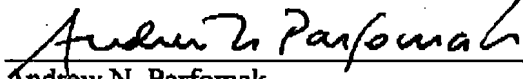

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Enclosure

Certification of Telefax Transmission:

I hereby certify that this paper is being telefax transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office to telefax number: 571 273-8300 on the date shown below:


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